

10/594541

IAP01 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 SEP 2006

F-9223

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Akira OKABE, et al.
Serial No. : (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/016567
Filed November 9, 2004)
Filed : (Concurrently herewith)
For : WAFER SUPPORT AND SEMICONDUCTOR
SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD
Group Art Unit : UNKNOWN
Examiner : UNKNOWN

September 27, 2006
New York, New York

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 together with copies of the 15 references listed therein. Also enclosed is a copy of PCT/JP2004/016567 International Search Report listing 5 of the 15 references listed in Form PTO-1449.

Please note a concise explanation of the relevance of JP-10-223545 (equivalent to U.S. 6,129,047) and JP2002-198318 appear at page 4 of the specification.

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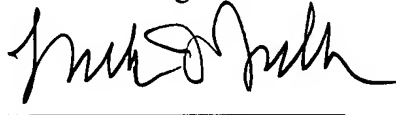
(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/016567
Filed November 9, 2004)

Also, a concise explanation of the relevance of JP-2003-273037 (equivalent to U.S. 6,887,775 and US Publication No. 2003/21998), JP-2003-197532, JP-2003-197533 and JP-2003-229370 appear at page 5 of the specification.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to issuance of the first Official Action. Therefore, there is no charge for filing this IDS.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan and Hamburg LLP

By 

Frank J. Jordan
Reg. No. 20,456
Attorney for Applicants

Jordan and Hamburg LLP
122 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10168
(212) 986-2340

FJJ/cj
Enc.

Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 7-80) 42-44F (F-49)		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No.: F-9223		Serial No.: (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/016567 Filed November 9, 2004)		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant: Akira OKABE, et al.				
				Filing Date: (Concurrently)		Group: (UNKNOWN)		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	U1	US- 6,129,047 (Equivalent to JP 10-223545)	10/10/2000	Nakamura				
	U2	US- 6,887,775 (Equivalent to JP 2003-273037)	5/3/2005	Von Ammon et al.				
	U3	US- 2003/0219981 (Equivalent to JP 2003-273037)	11/27/2003	Ammon et al.				
	U4	US- 6,444,027	9/3/2002	Yang et al.				
	U5	US- 6,184,154	2/6/2001	Dietze et al.				
	U6	US- 5,370,709 (Equivalent to JP 4-075328)	12/6/1994	Kobayashi				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	F1	JP- 10-223545 (Equivalent to US 6,129,047)	8/21/1998	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F2	JP- 2002-198318	7/12/2002	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F3	JP- 2003-273037 (Equivalent to US 6,129,047 and US Pub. 2003/219981)	9/26/2003	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F4	JP- 2003-197532	7/11/2003	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F5	JP- 2003-197533	7/11/2003	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F6	JP- 2003-229370	8/15/2003	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F7	JP- 4-075328 (Equivalent to US 5,370,709)	3/10/1992	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F8	JP- 2002-134425	5/10/2002	JP			Y ^{*C}	
	F9	JP- 11-079888	3/23/1999	JP			Y ^{*F}	
TRANSLATION KEY: * English Abstract. ^F Concise statement of relevance provided in foreign search report. ^C Concise statement of relevance provided in specification or in attachment to document. ^S Concise statement of relevance provided in IDS. ^P Relevant portion of document translated. ^O English abstract only - copy of document in pct search.								

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
OTHER INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								